

is a Continuation of Application No. 08/561,479 filed November 20, 1995, now Patent No. 5,661,292, which is a Continuation of Application No. 08/293,695 filed August 19, 1994, now Patent No. 5,468,951, which is a Continuation of Application No. 07/898,919 filed June 12, 1992, now Patent No. 5,340,973, and a Continuation of Application No. 07/761,123 filed September 17, 1991, now Patent No. 5,340,971; Application No. 08/827,118 filed March 27, 1997, now Patent No. 5,925,870; which is a Continuation of Application No. 08/584,135 filed January 11, 1996, now Patent No. 5,616,908, which is a Continuation of Application No. 08/278,109 filed November 24, 1993, now Patent No. 5,484,992, which is a Continuation of Application No. 07/960,733 filed October 14, 1992, now abandoned, which was a CIP of Application No. 07/898,919, filed June 12, 1992, now Patent No. 5,340,973, and a CIP of Application No. 07/761,123 filed September 17, 1991, now Patent No. 5,340,971; Application No. 08/887,756 filed July 3, 1997, now Patent No. 6,085,981; which is a Continuation of Application No. 08/632,899 filed April 16, 1996, now Patent No. 5,756,982, which is a Continuation of Application No. 08/489,305 filed June 9, 1995, now abandoned, which is a Continuation of Application No. 07/821,917 filed January 16, 1992, now abandoned, which was a CIP of Application No. 07/580,740 filed September 11, 1990, now abandoned and a CIP of Application No. 07/583,421 filed September 17, 1990, now Patent No. 5,260,553]. Each said patent application is assigned to and commonly owned by Metrologic Instruments, Inc. of Blackwood, New Jersey, and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-92 without prejudice or disclaimer and add claims 93-96 as follows:

--93. An automatically-activated laser scanning 2D bar code symbol reading system for use in a work environment, said system comprising:

a hand-supportable 2D bar code symbol reader in communication with a host system, and having a bar code reading mode of operation and a data transmission mode of operation, and including

(1) a hand-supportable housing;

(2) an automatically-activated laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for automatically (1) producing, during said bar code

reading mode of operation, a visible linear-type laser scanning pattern for scanning a 2D bar code symbol structure on an object as said hand-supportable housing is manually transported past said 2D bar code symbol along a height-wise direction by an operator, (2) capturing lines of scan data from said scanned 2D bar code symbol structure, (3) decode processing said scan data, and (4) generating a symbol character data string representative of said read 2-D bar code symbol;

wherein said laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism includes

(a) a bar code symbol data detector for automatically detecting each line of said 2-D bar code symbol during said bar code reading mode of operation, and automatically producing a line of scan data for buffering in a buffer memory, and

(b) an audible data capture buffering indicator for automatically generating audible sounds as each line of bar code symbol data is captured and buffered in said buffer memory, and

(c) a decode processor for automatically decode automatically processing an entire set of scan data collected in said buffer memory and corresponding to a scanned 2-D bar code symbol, and generating a symbol character data string representative of said read 2-D bar code symbol;

(3) a data transmission circuit, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for transmitting said produced symbol character data string to a host system; and

(4) a device controller, disposed within said hand-supportable housing, for controlling said automatically-activated laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism and said data transmission circuit.--

--94. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises a good read indicator, integrated with said hand-supportable housing, for indicating each instance of when a bar code symbol is read by said laser-scanning bar code symbol reading mechanism and a symbol character data string representative thereof is produced.--

--95. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises an objection detection subsystem disposed within said hand-supportable

housing and including infrared (IR) signal transmission/receiving circuitry for automatically detecting said object within an object detection field definable relative to said hand-supportable housing.--

--96. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises an objection detection subsystem disposed within said hand-supportable housing, and including low-power non-visible laser beam signaling mechanism for automatically detecting said object within an object detection field definable relative to said hand-supportable housing.--

REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.121, a clean set of first the paragraph on Page 1, pursuant to the above Amendment, is set forth below.

RELATED CASES

The present application is a Continuation of Application No. 10/342,433 filed January 12, 2003 which is a continuation-in-part (CIP) of: Application No. 09/452,976 filed December 2, 1999; and Application No. 09/204,176, filed December 3, 1998, now Patent 6,283,375. Each said patent application is assigned to and commonly owned by Metrologic Instruments, Inc. of Blackwood, New Jersey, and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.121, a clean set of pending claims 93-96 is set forth below.

93. An automatically-activated laser scanning 2D bar code symbol reading system for use in a work environment, said system comprising:

a hand-supportable 2D bar code symbol reader in communication with a host system, and having a bar code reading mode of operation and a data transmission mode of operation, and including

(1) a hand-supportable housing;

(2) an automatically-activated laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for automatically (1) producing, during said bar code reading mode of operation, a visible linear-type laser scanning pattern for scanning a 2D bar code symbol structure on an object as said hand-supportable housing is manually transported past said 2D bar code symbol along a height-wise direction by an operator, (2) capturing lines of scan data from said scanned 2D bar code symbol structure, (3) decode processing said scan data, and (4) generating a symbol character data string representative of said read 2-D bar code symbol;

wherein said laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism includes

(a) a bar code symbol data detector for automatically detecting each line of said 2-D bar code symbol during said bar code reading mode of operation, and automatically producing a line of scan data for buffering in a buffer memory, and

(b) an audible data capture buffering indicator for automatically generating audible sounds as each line of bar code symbol data is captured and buffered in said buffer memory, and

(c) a decode processor for automatically decode automatically processing an entire set of scan data collected in said buffer memory and corresponding to a scanned 2-D bar code symbol, and generating a symbol character data string representative of said read 2-D bar code symbol;

(3) a data transmission circuit, disposed in said hand-supportable housing, for transmitting said produced symbol character data string to a host system; and

(4) a device controller, disposed within said hand-supportable housing, for controlling said automatically-activated laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism and said data transmission circuit.

94. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises a good read indicator, integrated with said hand-supportable housing, for indicating each instance of when a bar code symbol is read by said laser-scanning bar code symbol reading mechanism and a symbol character data string representative thereof is produced.

95. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises an objection detection subsystem disposed within said hand-supportable housing and including infrared (IR) signal transmission/receiving circuitry for automatically detecting said object within an object detection field definable relative to said hand-supportable housing.

96. The automatically-activated laser scanning bar code symbol reading system of claim 93, which further comprises an objection detection subsystem disposed within said hand-supportable housing, and including low-power non-visible laser beam signaling mechanism for automatically detecting said object within an object detection field definable relative to said hand-supportable housing.